Undergrounding Utility Lines in the Historic District

Town of Leesburg

Department of Capital Projects

Management

March 13, 2006

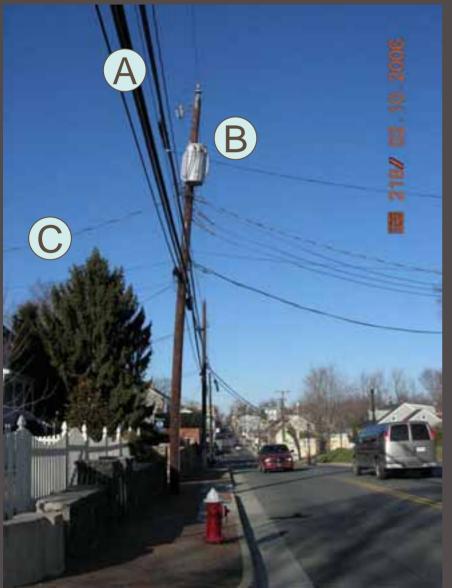
Why underground?

Aesthetics

- Reduce tree pruning
- Maximizes sidewalk widths
- Increases traffic safety
- Improves quality of life



What is involved?



A –Transmissionlines

B –Transformer

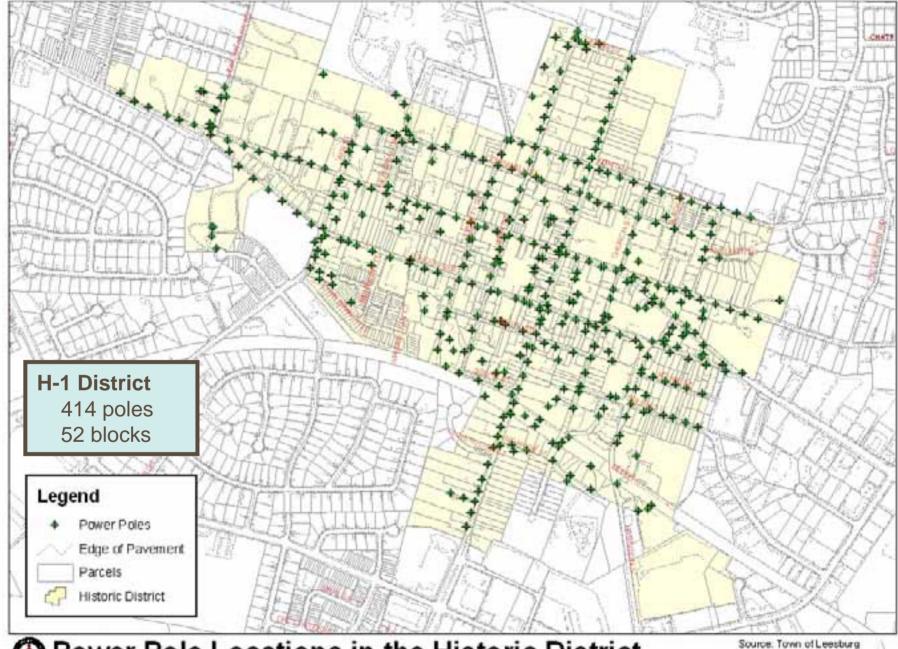
C –Service lines



Challenges

- Cost
 - Utility companies
 - Town
 - Shared (Town and Utility Companies)
 - Pro rata share
- Other competing underground utilities
- Easement acquisitions
- Interior and exterior modifications to older buildings
- Limited above ground space for accessory equipment (transformer boxes)





Current Policy

- Major thoroughfare in the Historic
 District, or major thoroughfare leading to the Historic District
- Major street project underway
- Funds to underground available
- Cost to underground service lines by the Town
- Cost estimates should include cost of Undergrounding



Action Plan

- Enabling Resolution designating the Historic District an Underground Utility Distribution Area, and major thoroughfares leading to the Historic District Underground Utility Distribution Corridors.
- Establish or revise franchise agreements to include cost sharing
- Continue to seek legislative changes that require developers to pay a pro rata share
- Seek utility Undergrounding grants.

